

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15

NSC-05 L-02 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 OC-05 CCO-00

A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 SCCT-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 PER-03 /115 W

----- 068154

R 081455Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1001

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

UNCLAS ROME 6685

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, OTRA, IT

SUBJ: CIVAIR - SITUATION AT ROME/FIUMICINO AIRPORT

1. ROME/FIUMICINO AIRPORT UTTER CHAOS MAY 6 AND 7. DUE TO STRIKE OF AIRPORT FIREMEN ON 0800-1400 SHIFT, CIVAIR AUTHORITIES CLOSED AIRPORT TO TRAFFIC FROM 0800 TO 1440 BOTH DAYS. IN PAST, GOI HAS EITHER ORDERED AIRPORT FIREMEN BACK TO DUTY OR HAD MILITARY PERSONNEL STAND IN SO THAT MAJOR AIRPORTS CONTINUED TO OPERATE. EMBASSY DOES NOT KNOW WHEN THIS STRIKE MAY BE SETTLED; FOR DURATION, SUDDEN CESSATION OF FLIGHT OPERATIONS MAY BE EXPECTED.

2. IN ADDITION, ITALIAN CIVIL AVIATION UNIONS ARE AGITATING FOR A SINGLE NATIONWIDE CONTRACT, USING SERIES OF SHORT STRIKES AT FIUMICINO AND OTHER MAJOR ITALIAN AIRPORTS BY GROUND SERVICE PERSONNEL AND ALITALIA HOSTESSES AND PURSERS AS THEIR WEAPON. NEXT SUCH STRIKE IS SCHEDULED FOR 1000 TO 2400 ON MAY 9. THIS TYPE OF SHORT-NOTICE "HICCUP" STRIKE LASTING FROM ONE TO EIGHT HOURS, WHICH CAUSES DELAYS/ CANCELLATIONS (ESPECIALLY FOR ALITALIA) IN FLIGHTS OPERATING TO/FROM FIUMICINO AND OTHER ITALIAN AIRPORTS, MAY BE EXPECTED CONTINUE FOR INDEFINITE FUTURE SINCE AIRLINES AND ALITALIA PILOTS/FLIGHT ENGINEERS OPPOSE SUCH A CONTRACT.

3. MOVEOVER, ALITALIA PILOTS, FLIOHT ENGINEERS, HOSTESSES AND PURSERS HAVE BEEN OPERATING WITHOUT A CONTRACT SINCE DECEMBER 31, 1974 AND HAVE CALLED SEVERAL STRIKES SINCE THEN TO SUPPORT THEIR CONTRACT DEMANDS. (ONE DEMAND IS NO LAYOFFS OF FLIGHT PERSONNEL DESPITE RETIREMENT OF NUMEROUS AIRCRAFT FROM FLEET AND SHARP REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF FLIGHTS OPERATED.) THESE STRIKES OFTEN OCCASION SYMPATHY WALKOUT BY GROUND SERVICES PERSONNEL AT FIUMICINO. CONSE- QUENTLY, ALITALIA (WHOSE HOME BASE IS FIUMICINO) SUBJECT TO INTERRUPTION OF FLIGHT OPERATIONS BY STRIKE OF ITS FLIGHT PERSONNEL UNTIL SUCH TIME AS NEW CONTRACT AGREED UPON.

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4. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED ABOVE, EMBASSY RELUCTANTLY RECOMMENDS OFFICIAL TRAVELERS AVOID FIUMICINO AIRPORT TO EXTENT POSSIBLE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FIRE SAFETY, CIVIL AVIATION, LABOR STRIKES, LABOR UNIONS, AIRPORTS, AIR SCHEDULES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ROME06685  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750162-0304  
**From:** ROME  
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**Line Count:** 110  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by BalzMJ>; APPROVED <20 JAN 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

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US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CIVAIR - SITUATION AT ROME/FIUMICINO AIRPORT  
**TAGS:** EAIR, OTRA, IT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006